Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 DRC-01 RSC-01 /048 W

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R 080515Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9510

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT (POUCH)

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1798

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TC, SA, KU, LE, BA, MU, QA

SUBJECT: TRADE MISSION: SPECIALIZED INDUSTRIAL AND

TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) STATE 82139 (B) KUWAIT 1769

- 1. EMBASSY BELIEVES BEST COLLECTION COMMENTS RE PROPOSED PRODUCT COMPOSITION SUBJECT TRADE MISSION CONTAINED IN MRO LOUGHLIN'S 1973 REPORT. IN KUWAIT COMPLICATING FACTOR IS THAT AMERICAN PRODUCTS THIS FIELD ALREADY DOING QUITE WELL, AND WE NOT SURE HOW MUCH INCREMENTAL SALES CAN BE GENERATED. QATAR MARKET MORE DIMINATED BY BRITISH SUPPLIERS, SO US FIRMS MIGHT HAVE CHANCE MAKE INROADS, ESPECIALLY IN ROAD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT; HOWEVER WE BELIEVE MARKET IN QATAR PROBABLY STILL TOO SMALL TO WARRANT EXPECTATION MAJOR SALES.
- 2. ASSUMPTION PARA 3 REFTEL CORRECT: WE HAD CONSTRUCTION APPLICATIONS IN MIND WHEN RECOMMENDING PORTABLE GENERATORS AND GENERATOR SETS; BELIEVE 500 WATTS ADEQUATE BUT WOULD HOPE MISSION MEMBERS WOULD BE ABLE RESPOND IF PARTICULAR CLIENT ASKED FOR LARGER CAPACITY.
- 3. THERE MANY PROJECTS IN ALL GULF POSTS FOR WHICH THERE MIGHT UNCLASSIFIED

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BE APPLICATION PRODUCTS MENTIONED REFTEL. SUGGEST USDOC

REFER TO PROJECT LISTS WHICH HAVE BEEN FORWARDED WITHIN PAST SIX MONTHS.

- 4. REGARDING MISSION ITINERARY IN LOWER GULF, WE REALLY DO NOT BELIEVE MISSION WOULD BE AS PROFITABLE IN DOHA AS IT WOULD BE IN BAHRAIN. IT APPEARS BAHRAIN WILL HAVE AN INCREASING NEED FOR MATERIALS IN QUESTION, ESPECIALLY SINCE MAJOR DRY DOCK PROJECT NOW UNDER WAY. THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND BAHRAIN BE SUBSTITUTED FOR QATAR. EMBASSY MANAMA CONCURS THIS RECOMMENDATION. (THIS WOULD NOT PRECLUDE SELECTED QATARIS FROM VISITING THE MISSION IN BAHRAIN.)
- 5. REGARDING PROPOSED MISSION STOP IN KUWAIT, OUR PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO HAVE SYSTEMS-ORIENTED MISSION, AS WE HAVE MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY AND HAVE DISCUSSED DURING RECENT VISITS HEARN AND WESTLEY, VISIT KUWAIT IN FALL IN PLACE OF SPECIALIZED INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT MISSION. IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE, WE WILL DO BEST WE CAN TO PROMOTE SUCCESS OF SPECIALIZED INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT MISSION. STOLTZFUS

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